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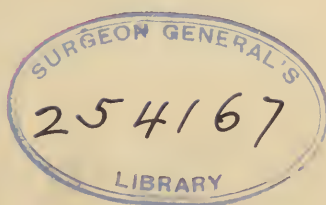
Bellevue Hospital.

New York. Training School for Nurses.

1873 - 1923

Fiftieth Anniversary

Bellevue Training School  
for Nurses





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*Main Entrance*



*Entrance to old Bellevue*

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*Bellevue Hospital 1860*

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Art. I—The name of this Society shall be known as “The Training School for Nurses.”

Art. II—“The object of this Society is the training of nurses for the sick in order that women shall find a school for their education and the public shall reap the advantage of skilled and educated labor.”



## BELLEVUE SPEAKS

I stand by the side of a river  
That's salt with the tang of the sea,  
There's never a port of any sort  
But sends her sons to me.  
To me, from the ships on the river  
They come to be eased of their pain,  
But when they at length regain their strength  
They're off to the ships again.

I stand by the side of a current  
That's deeper far than the sea,  
And storm-beaten craft of every draught  
Come in to be healed by me.  
But some have more sin than fever,  
And some have more grief than pain,  
God help me make whole both body and soul  
Before they go out again.

HYLA S. WATTERS, M.D.  
Interne on Cornell Division  
1921-1922



*Water Front 1879*



*Water Front 1923*



IN trying to do justice to the history of the Bellevue Training School for Nurses within the limitations of this little book, many picturesque and dramatic incidents will have to be left unrecounted, and reference to many consecrated lives omitted, and only some of the main points in the School's development recorded. It is the story of a great vision and service which has grown with the obstacles and the requirements it has had to meet, and which has progressed through sacrifice and adjustment to the point where we find it today.

It was early in 1872 that plans for the establishment for a Training School for Nurses in connection with Bellevue Hospital began to take definite shape. Shortly before that time general interest had been taken in the conditions that existed in the alms houses and poor houses of the City and of New York County and through a sub-Committee of the State Charities Aid these institutions were being visited and reports made by a group of public spirited women. It so happened that one of the Commissioners of Charities, General Bowen, asked Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler, the Chairman of the Committee mentioned, to go over Bellevue Hospital with him with the idea that the work of the Committee might be extended to the Hospital. Together with Miss Schuyler and the Commissioner went Mrs. David Lane. After their visit these women determined in their own minds that the only solution for the betterment of conditions as they saw them would be by the establishment of a Training School for Nurses. However, so drastic a remedy could not be suggested just then, and accordingly, Miss Schuyler determined to form a sub-Committee especially to visit Bellevue Hospital, and it is at this point that the women afterwards to be the inspiration of all nursing in this country became the founders of the Bellevue School.

On January 27th, 1872, Mrs. William H. Osborn, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Woodworth, and one or two others made their first visit to Bellevue Hospital and for many months afterwards, day after day they went through the wards, consulted with the authorities and doctors as to how to better the conditions in the Hospital, and the care given to the sick and suffering poor. This Committee was known as the Local Visiting Association of Bellevue Hospital and its object, as stated in the Constitution, was to "visit regularly and systematically all the wards of Bellevue Hospital, with a view to the mental, moral and physical improvement of the patients, and to bring about such reforms as may be practicable." At the first meeting of this Local Visiting Association held in March, the reports showed that "Bellevue was a hospital where patients were neither nursed, fed, nor clothed as humanity demanded," and representations to that effect were made to the Commissioners of Charities. The Commissioners responded respectfully to the representations of the Committee and showed surprise that no dissatisfaction had been expressed



*Mrs. Wm. H. Osborn*

by any of the visiting physicians, but they requested the ladies to continue their labors. At the second meeting special emphasis was laid on the deficiency in the nursing department. The only nursing provided was done by illiterate women at a very low wage, assisted in wards where there were twenty or thirty patients, by prisoners from Blackwell's (now Welfare) Island, and convalescent patients who were glad to find a home in the hospital. Medicines were casually given to the patients to take as they liked, the food was most unappetizing and only those who had money to pay for service received any attention.

From these despairing conditions the establishment of the School of Nursing sprang, and to the initiative, fearlessness, and faith of Mrs. Osborn and her associates, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Griffen, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Woodworth, Miss Woolsey, Miss Collins, Miss Gould, and Mrs. d'Oremieulx, after much opposition from the Department of Charities and from many physicians, the school owes its start. Mrs. Osborn and this Committee finally determined that the time had come to propose the establishment of a Training School for Nurses, and that this must be done according to the plans that had been instituted by that great woman Florence Nightingale in St. Thomas's Hospital in London. One of the House Surgeons at Bellevue at this time was Dr. W.



*Mrs. Wm. Preston Griffen*

Gill Wylie, news of whose death comes as this record is being written, and his interest in the Training School idea led him to go to England with the purpose of studying the Nightingale method at first hand and to bring back a report, in order that in every detail the Committee should be guided in its undertaking. The battle with the Department of Charities still had to be fought and opposition to change of so drastic a kind had still to be overcome; the doctors gave little encouragement for success and feared, among other things, that the conscientious and intelligent women upon whom the Committee depended for pupils would lose heart and hope long before their training was completed. Dr. Wylie, however, returned from Europe, and several other members of the Medical Board, among them Dr. Stephen Smith, Dr. James W. Markoe, Dr. James R. Wood, and Dr. Austen Flint, caught the vision of the Committee, and with their help a paper stating the object and plan of the work was prepared, and an appeal made to the public of New York for funds to establish the School. The idea was received with enthusiasm at once, and a substantial sum of money collected in a very short time. Only a limited number of wards could be taken over for this great experiment, and the consent to nurse in them was finally won from the Commissioner of Charities. Six connecting wards on the top floor of the Hospital were assigned





*Sister Helen*

to the Bellevue Training School for Nurses, and the arrangement made with the City that all expenses incurred beyond the cost to the City of the old system should be defrayed by the Committee. Through letters to the papers and a certain amount of publicity six pupils were secured, but as the first of May approached, the day appointed for the Committee to begin work, a Superintendent was still to be found and the prospect of failing to meet its engagement and thus fulfill the prophesies of its opponents threatened the Committee.

A little story may not here be amiss to illustrate the faith and courage of the Training School Board and especially of its leading spirit, Mrs. William H. Osborn. One of the members of the Board, in a despondent mood at this time, expressed her anxiety to Mrs. Osborn and received the following reply: "I have such faith in this work, and I have prayed so for it, that I shall have that Superintendent's bed made, being sure that she will come to occupy it." A few days later Mrs. Osborn was at her breakfast table, when a woman in the garb of a sister was announced. Her English accent betrayed her nation-



*The First Nurses Home, 426 East 26th Street*

ality as she explained that she had heard a training school for nurses in New York was being established, and since she had had considerable experience in such work, she had come to offer her services. The result of that visit was the engagement of Sister Helen of the All Saints Sisterhood, in London, as Superintendent. The school thus started its struggling, tentative work the first of May, 1873, and has never wavered nor faltered from the high ideals conceived for it by this first group of women. The principles adopted from Miss Nightingale have been faithfully followed, not only at Bellevue, but by all the schools subsequently founded up to the present time.

That principle, which Miss Nightingale insisted upon as fundamental and which excited the greatest opposition among hospital authorities, was that all nurses should, in matters of discipline, be under a woman, who should be responsible to the hospital authorities for the behavior of her subordinates,



*Three of the first Nurses of the School*

and for the faithful performance of their duties; that all complaints should go to her to be investigated and be by her referred to the supreme authority, whether warden or medical superintendent. In a letter to the Bellevue Committee, Miss Nightingale says:

“Nurses are not medical men—on the contrary, nurses are there, and solely there, to carry out the orders of the medical and surgical staff, including of course the whole practice of cleanliness, fresh air, diet, etc. The whole organization of discipline to which the nurses must be subjected, is for the sole purpose of enabling them to carry out intelligently and faithfully such orders and such duties as constitute the whole practice of nursing. Their duties can never clash with medical duties, and for this very purpose, that is, in order that they may be competent to execute medical directions, to be nurses and not doctors, they must be, for discipline and internal management, entirely under a woman—a trained superintendent—whose whole business is to see that the nursing duties are performed according to this standard.”

This was such an innovation in hospital rule that it created great opposition at first in this country as well as in Europe, but following the advice of Miss Nightingale, the Committee stood firm, carried its point, and as time



Class B—MISS MARION PITTS, Class of 1924  
City Hospital School of Nursing

## SONG FOR NURSES

*Tune—"Battle Hymn of the Republic"*

What urgent needs of all the world are challenging our ears,  
That asks us to devote the best of all the passing years?  
'Tis the burden of the helpless and the sound of children's tears,  
That stirs us to the work!  
    Courage for the sake of others,  
    Courage for the sake of others,  
    Courage for the sake of others,  
Our ranks are marching on.

We must stop to listen often, lest our purpose we forget.  
And, again, we hear the needs of men that never have been met.  
We have need of all our science for the task that we have set.  
    Our service knows no bounds.  
        Answering to the call of duty,  
        Answering to the call of duty,  
        Answering to the call of duty,  
Our ranks are marching on.

We do dedicate our talent and we dedicate our mind,  
To the service of our country and the service of mankind.  
May the knowledge of our purpose all our acts forever bind,  
    That nursing may exalt.  
        Ever onward are we facing,  
        Ever onward are we facing,  
        Ever onward are we facing,  
Our ranks are marching on.

passed and the School extended until it controlled all the nursing in the Hospital, the rule was accepted without question, and as other schools were founded, the superintendents carried these regulations with them, until now no other system is in use in any hospital in England, nor in any civil hospital in this country, with schools of nursing.

All doubts were soon dispelled and the doctors realized that the careful, kind and intelligent nursing given in the wards under the school, resulted in the more rapid recovery of the patients, and in fewer complications and deaths after operations; so they with this as an argument, together with the Superintendent, Sister Helen, were able to persuade the City authorities to permit the extension of the nursing service to other wards, and thus, little by little, the school progressed until every ward was taken over and no hospital extension or development undertaken without the assistance of a trained nurse.

In 1874 New York was in the grip of an epidemic of Puerperal Fever and in Bellevue during a period of six months, 31 out of 166 confinement cases died. The Medical Board and the Board of Managers fully appreciated the pressing need of providing a remedy for the conditions which were causing these disastrous results and realized that the evils did not reside in the Hospital building itself. Nevertheless, the City's lying-in service was taken away from Bellevue and placed in two wooden pavilions attached to the Charity Hospital on Blackwell's Island. It was not long, however, before the death rate in these pavilions exceeded that which had obtained at Bellevue and they also were abandoned. For a time more serious and hideous conditions prevailed until finally the Medical Board and the Board of Managers were able to convince the authorities that the obstetrical service must be moved to quarters entirely for the care of confinement cases, away from any possible source of infection. Accordingly a building on East 26th Street which had been used as an engine house by the Fire Department was fitted up as a lying-in hospital and was attached to the Bellevue service. This building, called the Emergency Hospital, served for many years and has a splendid record to its credit. It was there that Doctors William T. Lusk and William M. Polk, of the Bellevue Staff, gave a service to the poor women of the City of a memorable kind. The nursing of the Emergency Hospital was under the care of a Bellevue graduate, and under her the pupils of the Bellevue Training School received their instruction in this important branch of their profession. When the new pavilion was opened this service was moved to the modern maternity wards. There was still work, however, for that old building to do and the Board of Trustees, led by Dr. Brannan, established the School of Midwifery. The midwives practicing in New York City now come for training and on the completion of a prescribed course are licensed to practice. By this Bellevue took another step forward to its credit and sorrowful conditions resulting from improper treatment and care have been immeasurably reduced, if not entirely eliminated.

Sister Helen returned to England in 1876 and her place was taken by Miss Eliza Perkins, a New England gentlewoman whose high ideals, sterling character and wise leadership exerted a lasting influence on the nursing profes-

sion. Miss Perkins guided the School as superintendent until 1888. What years of devotion and labor these were! There seemed to be no limit to the courage and energy of the Committee, nor to the endurance and perseverance of these early members of the profession.

The physical arrangements of the hospital were still poor, it was a battle with dirt, poor food, unsanitary conditions of every kind. Little or no plumbing existed, hot water had to be carried in buckets or pails and the hours of vigilance given by the individual nurse fairly stagger the imagination of today. These hours at first were from four A. M. until ten P. M., and then, if need be, the nurse watched through the night by lying down in a room next the ward. When a night Supervisor was added to the staff, the hours were reduced and a full night's rest assured. In her little book, Bellevue's first night supervisor, Miss Linda Richards, a graduate of the New England Hospital for Women and Children, and justly called America's first trained nurse, gives so graphic a picture of the conditions at this time that her account is worth quoting:

"I shall never forget my first experience on night duty at Bellevue. No sooner had the day nurses left the wards than the gas was turned so low that the faces of the patients could not be distinguished. One could see only the dim outlines of figures wrapped in gray blankets lying upon the beds. If any work was to be done, a candle must be lighted, and only two candles a week were allowed each ward. If more were used, the nurse had to provide them. At midnight all the steam was turned off; at 3 A. M. it was turned on again, and the cracking of the pipes would awaken every one in the wards. How cold and dismal were the hours between midnight and three o'clock in the morning!

The captain of the night watch made several rounds of the wards through the night, and at 5 A. M. he turned off all the gas, leaving us in total darkness. Patients took advantage of this condition to leave their beds and give trouble in many ways. At the end of my first month I told Sister Helen I could not be responsible for the patients unless I could have light in the wards. She said, 'Go to the warden and tell him.' Under the solemn promise (always faithfully kept) to use no more gas than would enable us to fulfill our duties, and to turn off all gas as soon as it was light, we were allowed night light. So one step in advance was taken.

Written night orders and reports were at that time unknown. Night nurses went on duty at 8 P. M. I was on duty at 7:30 P. M. I saw each head day nurse as she left her ward, received orders, and transmitted them to the night nurses. In the morning I gave reports to the head nurses as they began their day duty. All this was verbal. When I had been on duty nearly a year, I kept notes of one case to be written up by a nurse for Sister Helen. Each nurse was required to write up a case. The doctor of the division saw the report and thought it was for him. He was glad of it, as it helped him in his notes on the case, and after that he asked me to write reports of all serious cases. This was the beginning in Bellevue of a custom now considered



*Preparations for an Operation in the Old Days*



*Patients at Dinner in the Old Days*



an elemental necessity in all hospitals, and in all serious cases of illness under the care of trained nurses."

This serves as an illustration of the consecration the pupil nurse brought to her work and of her willingness to prove the value of nursing in the face of every kind of opposition and difficulty.

One point of outstanding importance in the founding of the school was that the nurses should live outside of and away from the hospital, and Mrs. Osborn provided for this by giving a house, 426 East 26th Street, as a nurses' home. In the furnishing and running of this Home, Mrs. Osborn and other devoted members of her Committee, notably Mrs. Hobson and Mrs. Griffen, gave much personal thought and daily supervised the menus and other details of housekeeping. At the same time they exacted neatness, economy in the use of fuel and gas, care of the equipment generally on the part of the pupils, also the strict observance of rules; for these good friends of the nurses felt that upon the conduct and standards of the individual, the credit of the new profession would depend.

These were days of much activity and the Medical Board and the City authorities, increasingly appreciative of the work the School was doing for the benefit of the hospital, brought much pressure to bear on the Committee to extend their services. The conferences that were held to consider and meet these requests display wisdom and tact, amazing ability, devotion, self-sacrifice and accomplishment. Every additional nurse meant additional expense, but somehow the money was forthcoming, and the pupils showed their readiness to help in the extension of service by offering each one to relinquish \$1.00 per month of her small allowance, which was then \$12.00. In these early days, because of the pressure of work to be done, the teaching was confined to general neatness and cleanliness and the physical comfort of the patient, but the Committee was ever eager to follow the plan for teaching laid down by Florence Nightingale, and as more pupils came to the School, it was possible to begin systematized courses of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene. Doctors connected with the Hospital generously offered their services, and were engaged by the School authorities to deliver lectures on these subjects and others, the necessity of which might become evident as the School developed. The School continued to grow rapidly and in 1879 there were sixty-three pupils and many more applicants than could possibly be received, and at the same time requests were coming in from all over the country asking for Bellevue graduates to start other training schools. Far and wide news of the success of Bellevue Training School, called the mother of all American Training Schools, had reached, and from Bellevue, the great City Hospital, went the trained women to minister to the sick, assist the doctors, and develop their own profession.\* The vision of that first Committee of women was already a reality.

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\*(A list of Bellevue graduates who went to start training schools is printed in the Alumnae Association report which follows this summary.)



*The Old Children's Ward*



*The Present Children's Ward*

With the increase in size, the additional services undertaken, together with the development of the course of instruction, all sorts of questions incident to better organization confronted the school authorities. One question was of much importance—the uniform. At first no regular dress was required, but from 1873 to 1876 there is constant reference in the records to the want of neatness in “regard to the appearance of the pupil nurses.” Long black woolen dresses in winter, and cotton in summer were worn and it was with the utmost tact that the Committee suggested that the dresses might be shortened in the interest of cleanliness and comfort. By 1876 the reason for a uniform that should be an evidence of the Bellevue training became apparent, and the stripes that are worn today were adopted. The cap followed a little later, and much care was taken in its choice in order that it might be a practical as well as a suitable finish to a professional dress. A delightful comment on the cap strikes a chord of sympathy and human understanding between the wonderful women of that time and those of today. The Secretary records in the minutes, “The caps are complained of by the Board and the attention of the nurses drawn to the fact that they were meant to cover the hair and were not simply to be worn as a coquettish ornament.” After the uniform and cap were determined upon the pin and diploma were the next additions made to preserve the identity and uphold the standing of the School. These were given to each nurse who finished the course in a satisfactory manner, the pin being given by the Managers as a mark of character as well as achievement, while the diploma was the official recognition of attainment in the prescribed subjects of study.

From 1888-1902 the Training School prospered under the able direction of Miss Agnes Brennan, a graduate of the School. She knew every pupil, she watched and helped and guided their training with the devotion that one gives a child. During her incumbency, many new wards and services were taken over at the City's request, and in arranging for them, much had to be considered and adjusted and plans had to be made for a more diversified training. Miss Brennan and the Board of Managers, together, at this time developed the cordial relations with the City that have existed ever since, to the benefit of the Hospital and School alike. Mrs. William Preston Griffen, the President of the Board of Managers, or Mrs. Osborn visited daily and continued to give unstintingly of their time and strength.

Just prior to Miss Brennan's appointment, Mr. D. O. Mills generously gave a sum of money to the Department of Public Charities and Corrections to erect and establish a school for the training of male nurses. The City set aside a piece of land on the Bellevue grounds and within a year, on December 17th, 1888, the building was completed and the first class of students received. The first pupils of the Mills School were taught by graduates of the Training School who acted as head nurses as well on the five wards allotted to the men's school. The supervision of the School was also placed in the hands of the Board of Managers and is still a branch of the nursing department of the Hospital for which they are responsible.

In 1902 Miss Jane A. Delano, a graduate of the Class of 1886, returned to





*Sturges Pavilion 1892*

her School as Superintendent, and remained until 1907. Miss Delano was a woman of outstanding personality and character and she brought back to Bellevue a wide knowledge of training school problems gained from her own experience. Immediately after her graduation she became Superintendent of Nurses at the Sandhills Hospital, for the treatment of yellow fever in Jacksonville, Florida; from there she went to take charge of the nursing activities of a mining camp in Bisbee, Arizona, and for five more years was superintendent of nurses at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. In addition to all this, she had taken the course in Philanthropy given by the Charity Organization Society and from 1900 to 1902 had been superintendent of the Girls' Department of the House of Refuge on Randall's Island. During the five years that Miss Delano spent at Bellevue, there occurred an important change in the Hospital Management that was to make an outstanding record for many years to come. This was the establishment of the Board of Trustees, and the planning of a greatly enlarged and modern hospital. These developments involved a still better system of nursing, and the curriculum was accordingly intensified and broadened to meet the new





*Isabel Hampton Robb*

conditions. Miss Delano brought her remarkable powers of organization to improving the service of the Hospital in many ways. One of her notable contributions was the introduction of careful records as well as a system for the distribution of surgical supplies, which did away with much unnecessary waste and effected great economy of the City's funds.

In the first President of the Board of Trustees, Dr. John Winters Brannan, the School gained a friend who for twenty-one years to come was in his official capacity to be unswerving in his devotion to its interests. Through his efforts the funds for the building of the new nurses' home were secured, and his wisdom and judgment were always to be found ready to suggest or cooperate with any improvement having to do with the extension of the nursing service, or the comfort of the patient. Dr. Brannan's connection with the Hospital, together with Miss Delano's, marks a very important period in the history of the School. Miss Delano went from Bellevue to ever larger fields in the profession. She became head of the Army Nurse Corps and later of the American Red Cross Nursing Service. It was her imagination that saw the possibilities of service in time of disaster, and war, for a large



*Jane A. Delano*

mobile group of professional nurses organized under the American Red Cross. To building up this organization she gave the ten richest years of her life, working always unceasingly as a full time volunteer. Through her labors and those of her associates the American Red Cross enrolled 2500 nurses for service overseas and in this country. In 1919 Miss Delano went to France to inspect the work in the Military Hospitals there. Her arduous labors during the war had impaired her health, and while at Savanay she was taken seriously ill and died. She is buried in Arlington, and it can well be said of her that in peace and in war she gave her life that others might live.

After Miss Delano's resignation, Miss Annie W. Goodrich was appointed to fill her place. Miss Goodrich found a new and complex problem confronting her. The nursing care of the three Allied Hospitals, Harlem, Fordham and Gouverneur, was added to her responsibility, already great, of directing the School at Bellevue. Undaunted, her fertile mind adopted the plan for affiliations with schools of recognized standing that did not include in their training all the services that Bellevue offered. Pupils were therefore asked to come to Bellevue for special training, and in this way opportunity was



*Present Nurses Residence, 440 East 26th Street*

given for many women to receive their R. N. while Bellevue and Allied Hospitals were equally benefitted.

In 1906 under the New Charter of the City, the Society of the Training School agreed to be responsible for supplying the nurses for Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, the City contracting to provide living accommodations and board. This explains why the nursing of the Allied Hospitals became the obligation of the Board of Managers of the Training School, and why the increase in the nursing personnel was necessary. At this time Bellevue alone cared for a daily average of 1500 patients, and nurses were everywhere, in the Psychopathic, the Alcoholic, Tuberculosis, and Maternity wards, as well as on the regular medical, surgical and pediatric services. To adequately care for so large a number of patients, to train the pupils properly and at the same time safeguard their health were all questions that had to suffer compromise, and no pupils could be withdrawn from the central body. Therefore additional nurses had quickly to be arranged for in some way to care for the patients in the Allied Hospitals, and Miss Goodrich's plan effectively filled the need without lowering the quality of care given or the standard of training received. Miss Goodrich resigned in 1910 to become State Inspector of Training Schools, and in 1913 was called to fill a professorship in the Department of Nursing and Health at Teacher's College. Always reaching out for a wider applica-



*Sitting Room in Nurses Residence*

tion of her experience, and giving of her knowledge in the broadest way, she became in addition to her work at the College, Director of the Nursing Service of the Henry Street Settlement, and still holds these two positions today. During the war, while making an official tour of inspection of the Cantonment Hospitals, she saw the opportunity to improve the condition of nursing there given. By her unparalleled powers of organization, the Army Schools of Nursing were immediately created, and for that piece of work she has been awarded the Distinguished Service medal,

In 1911, to succeed Miss Goodrich, the Board of Managers appointed Miss Clara D. Noyes, a graduate of Johns Hopkins Training School, whose first superintendent, the late Isabel Hampton Robb, beloved and honored in her profession, was a graduate of the Bellevue School. Miss Noyes continued to solve the problems incident to the enlargement of the Hospital, and the modernizing of teaching methods and firm organization. She gave five years of constructive thought and unceasing labor to the further development of the School, and resigned in 1915 to become assistant to Miss Delano in the building up of the great Red Cross nursing service, with headquarters in Washington. After Miss Delano's death, Miss Noyes was appointed to succeed her and holds this post today.



Miss Amy Hilliard, a graduate of St. Luke's Hospital, succeeded Miss Noyes, and was general Superintendent of the Training School from 1916 to 1920, during the war and subsequent influenza epidemic—perhaps the most exacting, difficult and trying years in the history of the School. It was a time of intense strain and discouragement, many nurses left for overseas duty; to fill their places was impossible, so that those who remained were called on to do gallant service in the Bellevue Wards. Under the strain eleven fine promising young members of the profession, pupils in the School, succumbed to the influenza within a few days of each other, and it seemed that the sorrow and oppression of the time must try beyond endurance the courage of the supervision and the pupils alike—but Miss Hilliard, Miss Brink, and the entire staff set a great example, and carried on unfalteringly, continually inspiring all departments of the Hospital, until those difficult days were over. Before her term of office ended by her resignation to take charge of the Samaritan Hospital in Troy, the war shortage of supervisors and students was greatly reduced, and the graduating class numbered 83, up to that date the largest in the history of the school, and a record of achievement to Miss Hilliard's untiring efforts.

Following Miss Hilliard came Miss Carrie J. Brink of beloved memory indeed. Trained under Miss Brennan she had served as Assistant Superintendent for twenty-five years, and hers had been a steady and devoted influence for good. She knew every pupil in the School, and with the increasing ranks seemed ever able to stretch her sympathies and interest. Her teaching in bedside care was unsurpassed, and her practical demonstration room a model of perfection. Daily she assigned the pupils to their duties on the wards, and watched and tendered kindness to all who passed her way. Most truly can it be said of her that she died, with her hand on the helm, guiding the pupils in the highest fulfillment of their profession, and tenderly giving of her skill and experience to each patient suffering in that vast hospital. Hers is a name to cherish and the ideals that she lived by will be honored by those whom she taught and handed on by them to the pupils that follow.

Miss Katherine deLong, for many years associated with the Training School, and a graduate of Johns Hopkins, succeeded Miss Brink, and was appointed in 1921 to the position which she holds at the present time. Difficult days of adjustment due to after-war conditions confronted the Training School authorities. The pupils and supervision were bearing a great burden because of insufficient numbers and very few applications were coming into the Training School office. How to care for the patients was an acute problem. This situation, however, improved in a very short time. By securing a Teaching Staff of outstanding ability, reorganizing the curriculum, and distributing responsibility more definitely, as well as by offering a number of scholarships for post-graduate work, and additional opportunities for training in public health nursing in connection with the Bellevue Social Service Department, and the Henry Street Settlement, the School has today, under Miss deLong, the largest enrollment in its history. In Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, Bellevue graduates hold 58 important supervisory positions and in Harlem Hos-



*Carrie J. Brink*

pital a Training School for colored nurses was started on January 1st of the current year, where 17 pupils are receiving instruction under the supervision of a staff composed entirely of Bellevue graduates. No one not intimately associated with the problems of a training school can fully appreciate the amount of thought and time that this achievement represents.

There are two lines in the poem printed on the first pages of this book which seem to epitomize the spirit and the purpose of the Social Service Department: "God help me make whole both body and soul before they go out again." It is difficult to trace exactly the moment when the thoughts of the Managers were first directed to this development in the nursing profession. Even in the early days of the School there were indications that their minds were alive to the crying need for such an extension of care, but it was not until 1906, that it became possible to organize it on definite lines, and to start



*Bandaging Class (Miss Brink, Instructor, at Time of her Death)*



*Class in Dietetics*



*Miss Mary E. Wadley*  
*Director of Social Service Department*

its development. The Managers' vision and energy ever clear for the progressive move, welcomed the suggestion that had come to them from Dr. Armstrong, the Superintendent of the Hospital, and the Board of Trustees and brought again all their efforts to foster the establishment of this new department. The unanimous choice for the Director of this Department was Miss Mary E. Wadley, a graduate of the School. The wisdom and unselfishness, imagination and devotion that she has shown have gained for her a cherished and honored name in the ranks of her own alumnae, as well as throughout the country. The service given by the Social Service nurses is very varied. Not only are the patients visited in the wards, but they are followed up after leaving the hospital. Every kind of advice and care is given that could possibly contribute to their welfare and happiness, or that of their families.

A notable extension to the ward work is that done in the clinics. Since the establishment of the Social Service worker there, the whole picture of



clinic service is changed. In all the developments of the Department, the generosity of the Public plays a very large part, and the doctors throughout the Hospital are constantly urging that more Social Service nurses should be added. Though as the Director of the Social Service Department of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, Miss Wadley has 51 graduate trained nurses on her staff, she constantly sees the need of increasing this number, so comprehensive is the work. The activities of the Department are only limited by available funds, and daily the necessity for expansion is evident by the many calls that are made and cannot be answered. Last year over 25,000 patients were cared for and helped to a better hold on life.

Of one more record must mention be made. In June, 1916, the enrolment of nurses for Base Hospital No. 1 was begun by Miss Noyes. In October, 1916, the work of organization was transferred to Miss Brink, and was completed under her direction. The successful recruiting of the nursing personnel of a base hospital meant a tremendous amount of work in itself. To this was added the many details incident to getting together the equipment for a hospital of 500 beds. Moreover, as month after month passed, and the unit was not called to service, there were many changes in the original personnel. However, Miss Brink carried the work to a most successful conclusion; and when the call for mobilization finally came, a group of 65 well-trained graduates of the Bellevue Training School was ready to respond. Miss Brink handed the duties of chief nurse over to Miss Beatrice M. Bamber, Superintendent of Nurses at Harlem Hospital, who assumed them on February 12th, 1918. On that date the nurses were mobilized. On February 25th, 1918, they embarked on the S. S. Olympic for service overseas, and the reports brought back to the Board of Managers and the Hospital authorities bear testimony to a service given that in every way upheld the traditions and purposes of the school. It is with pride that the Unit's record of service takes its place in the annals of the School.

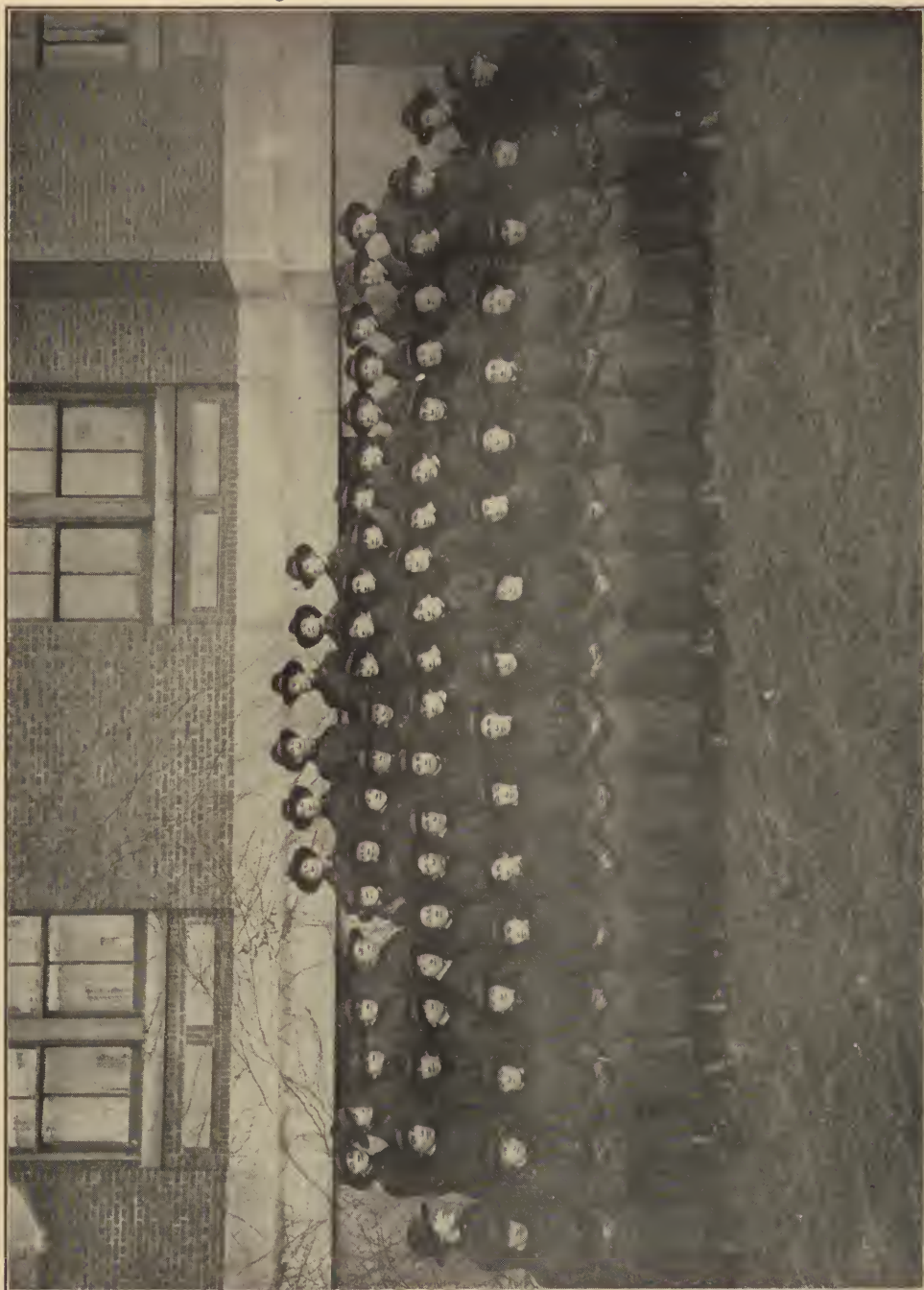
In closing this brief summary it remains to speak of the relations past and present existing between the Training School Board and the City of New York. At first and for many years these were quite informal and every question of change and progress had to be discussed and its fitness proven before it could be executed. During so many years of close association the City authorities had come to realize the sincerity and value of the work of the women Board and on the whole the School's progress had been rapid, but this method took unnecessary time and made improvements slow if not impossible to bring about until some serious situation might force a change. In the year 1906 under Mayor George B. McClellan, the relations of the Training School Board and the Board of Trustees, then newly appointed, were put on a contract basis and authority and responsibility defined. In working under this agreement the innumerable details of administration have been handled with cooperation and efficiency. The President of the Board of



*The Circus Comes to Bellevue*

Trustees, the Commissioners of Welfare and Health are all three ex-officio members of the Board of Managers and their advice and help is constantly sought and given in matters connected with the School. With the General Superintendent of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, Dr. George O'Hanlon, the Training School Board and nursing staff are in constant touch and they rely on his wise and enlightened judgment in all questions that concern the welfare of the Hospital and School.

It is interesting to realize that what was thought a daring innovation in 1873 is a clear necessity in 1923 and the trained nurse today is a woman of rank in a respected calling. This work of half a century was started and has been managed and developed by women. It was not always easy and is not always easy today, but the early vision of high professional standards and qualities of personal character which the founders of the School felt to be essential to a good nurse and a good school has never failed to inspire and



*Bellevue Unit (Base Hospital No. 1)  
Beatrice Bamber, Chief Nurse*



guide their successors. The women who have served on the Board of the Bellevue Training School for Nurses over the period of this half century, cannot but feel a sense of pride that because of the efforts of women a great profession for women is held in high esteem throughout the country and that by this accomplishment they have shown anew the advantages of the peculiarly American system of cooperation in public affairs between officials and private citizens. To those who have helped in this great work, the present Board desires to make acknowledgment and to express gratitude for the ample measure of growth and usefulness that have repaid the efforts of many devoted people for these many years.



*Osborn Hall, Alumnae Association Club House  
Given in memory of Mrs. Wm. H. Osborn,*

## HISTORY OF THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF THE TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES ATTACHED TO BELLEVUE HOSPITAL

At the annual reception of the School, held on January 7, 1889, a number of graduates met to talk over the advisability of forming a society with the object of promoting goodfellowship among its members, the establishment of an Annuity Fund and the providing of friendly and pecuniary assistance in sickness. The promoters of this movement received so much encouragement that a meeting was called on February 9th to decide on the constitution. The meeting was well attended and on April 2nd of the same year the society was organized as the Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Nurses, connected with Bellevue Hospital, New York. At this meeting, after thorough discussion, article by article the constitution was adopted. The first officers were as follows:

Miss Agnes S. Brennan, President.

Miss M. R. Boggs and Miss Alice Warren, Vice-Presidents.

Miss Post, Secretary.

Mr. John E. Parsons was appointed treasurer of the association and Miss Post, sub-treasurer. The trustees were Bishop Potter, Mr. John E. Parsons, Dr. William M. Polk, Dr. T. S. Dennis, Dr. Jasper Garmany, Dr. Chas. C. Barrows and Mrs. William H. Osborn. At the end of the first year 48 members were enrolled. The society was incorporated on July 9th, 1894, under its original name, which was changed on Dec. 15, 1898, to the present one.

The Bellevue Alumnae Association was one of the societies which helped to form the Associated Alumnae of Training Schools for Nurses of United States and Canada. Miss Annie Damer, of the class of 1885, was its president for four terms. Later, when incorporation became necessary, the name of that organization was changed to the American Nurses Association.

On May 2nd, 1911, Osborn Hall, 426 East 26th Street, was opened and the Registry Office was removed from 14 East 42nd Street, to the new clubhouse, which was made possible through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. William Church Osborn in memory of Mrs. William H. Osborn.

The vision and forethought of the founders of the Association have made its members especially fortunate in having funds available for sickness and need. The Annuity Fund which was started in 1889 grew and developed into the present Pension Fund. The Sick Benefit Fund was established in 1893. Lazarus Pavilion was opened in 1891 for the use of sick nurses. It was the gift of Miss Josephine Lazarus. The funds at present available for helping sick and needy nurses are: The Mary De Witt Cuyler fund, started in 1891 by Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, in memory of her sister, Mrs. Theodore Cuyler. The Keltatas Fund of \$10,000, the gift of Miss Alice Keltatas, in 1911, and



*Graduation Class of 1886*  
*Miss Agnes Brennan in the First Row*



*Graduating Class of 1920*



the Jane A. Delano Fund, a gift of \$5000, in 1919 from Jane A. Delano. These funds have been increased from time to time by gifts from the Board of Managers, Members, and their friends.

In 1921 a Scholarship Fund was started in memory of Carrie J. Brink, who served in the hospital from the date of her graduation until her death, December 10th, 1920.

It was due largely to the efforts of the early group of nurses and Training School Committee that the new Nightingale system of training was firmly planted in American soil, and extended to other countries. Bellevue Alumnae was closely associated with pioneer nursing and its earlier members became nursing leaders who helped to banish dirt, corruption, coarseness and neglect and establish a skilled and responsible nursing service even in corrupt and disorganized city institutions. Bellevue sent out so many graduates to organize other schools that it has come to stand almost as a symbol of the nursing revolution which wiped out the abuses of ignorance and made possible hygienic and scientific care of the sick. A few of the more prominent members of the early classes and their best known work are included below:

Mary Williams, 1875, was the first graduate nurse employed in Roosevelt Hospital.

Kate Rich, 1877, organized Mount Sinai Training School and was also superintendent of the Nurses Residence.

Susan West, 1877, was the first graduate nurse in charge of the Emergency Hospital, now the Bellevue School for Midwives.

Jane Sangster, 1877, became superintendent of the Training School to New York Hospital, and was succeeded by Eliza Watson Brown, 1878.

Mary E. Brown, 1878, organized the Illinois Training School in Chicago, and when she returned to Bellevue as Assistant Superintendent was succeeded by Miss J. S. Hanchett, 1880.

Essie Benedict, 1879, was the first nurse to do Public Health work in New York City.

Abbie R. Hunt, 1881, was the first trained nurse to work in St. Louis, Mo., where she organized the City Hospital Training School. In 1884 she graduated the first class in Indiana, at the Indianapolis City Hospital. Later as Mrs. Brice, she organized the Public Health Nursing Association of Indianapolis.

Agnes S. Brennan, 1882, was the third superintendent of the Bellevue School and its first graduate to fill the position.

Meredith Hart, 1883, was for 35 years resident nurse in Robert College, Constantinople.

Isabel Hampton, 1883, was first Superintendent of Nurses at the Illinois Training School, Chicago, and from there was called to Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, to organize that school. After her marriage to Dr. Hunter Robb, she became a leader in the nursing world and was largely instrumental in founding the Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses, which is now known as the League of Nursing Education, and the Department of Nursing and Health at Teachers' College, Columbia University. She is the author of



*Old Ambulance*



*Present Ambulance*



Nursing Principles and Practice, Ethics for Nurses, and educational standards for nurses.

Miss V. S. Field, 1883 succeeded Miss Hampton in charge of the Illinois Training School.

Miss M. A. Snively, 1884, was for many years in charge of the Children's Hospital, Toronto, Canada.

Hannah A. Baker, 1884, was Superintendent of the School at Memorial Hospital, Orange, New Jersey.

Edith Draper, 1884, organized the School at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, and was succeeded there by Florence Hutchinson and K. L. Lett, 1886.

Isobel Merritt, 1884, was the first superintendent of St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and was in charge of Brooklyn City Hospital Training School for 18 years.

Louise Darche, 1884, and Diana C. Kimber, 1885, succeeded the first Superintendent at New York City Hospital, bringing the school to a high state of efficiency. Miss Kimber is the author of an Anatomy and Physiology for Nurses, one of the first scientific books to be written by a nurse.

Mary E. Wadley, 1884, was the first Social Service Nurse in Bellevue Hospital, and is at present the Superintendent of Nurses in that Department.

Annie Damer, 1885, was a pioneer in Public Health work and was for four terms president of the organization which is now known as the American Nurses Association.

Sarah Montfort, 1885, organized the Training School in the Nyack Hospital, Nyack, New York.

Levinia Dock, 1886, was Night Superintendent at Bellevue, Assistant Superintendent of Nurses, at Illinois Training School and at Johns Hopkins. She is the author of a Materia Medica for Nurses, Hygiene and Morality, The History of Nursing, and other books.

Jane A. Delano, 1886, was for five years Superintendent of Nurses in the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and held the position of General Superintendent of Nurses in Bellevue and Allied Hospitals and Superintendent of the United States Army Nurse Corps and Director of the Department of Nursing of the American Red Cross.

Space here will not permit the recording of the splendid efforts and achievements of later graduates or any mention of the important service they are rendering in the nursing world today. The Alumnae point with pride to the growth of its list of graduates from 6 in 1875 to 1,418 in 1923, as well as to that of the Association itself, which has increased from the 48 members of the first year to an enrollment to 650 at the present time.















CARNEGIE HALL  
Tuesday Evening, May 8th, 1923

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BELLEVUE TRAINING SCHOOL  
FOR NURSES

1873—1923

A Meeting in Honor of  
THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
George David Stewart, M.D., Presiding Officer

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ORDER OF EXERCISES

Preliminary Music  
Entrance of the Alumnae and Student Nurses of the Bellevue  
School  
March of the Priests from "Athalia".....Mendelssohn  
Salutation.....Miss Lucy Minnigerode, R. N.,  
Bellevue Class of 1898. Chief Nurse United States  
Public Health Service  
Address.....Miss Annie W. Goodrich  
Announcement of the Winners in Song Contest  
Judges: Mr. Deems Taylor, Mr. Victor Herbert,  
Mrs. Charles Rosebault, Miss Mary M. Roberts  
Singing of Prize Song, Class A—The Song for which the music  
and words have been composed by the contestant.  
Address.....Major General Merritt W. Ireland,  
Surgeon-General, U. S. A.  
Singing of Prize Song, Class B. Original Lyric set to a popular air  
Exit of Delegations and Nurse Groups  
March, "The Chimes of Liberty".....Goldman

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Music by The Goldman Band,  
Edwin Franko Goldman, Conductor

## ORDER OF SEATING PLATFORM

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### Board of Managers

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Miss Katherine C. de Long—General Superintendent of Nurses, Bellevue and Allied Hospitals

Assistant Superintendents

Teaching Staff

Student Nurses

Dr. John J. McGrath—President Board of Trustees Bellevue and Allied Hospitals

Hon. Bird S. Coler — Commissioner of Welfare

Dr. Frank J. Monaghan—Commissioner of Health

Hon. Frank P. Graves—President of the University of the State of New York and Commissioner of Education

Hon. Augustus S. Downing — Assistant Commissioner and Director of Professional Education

Mr. George F. Canfield—State Charities Aid

### PARQUETTE

#### DELEGATIONS FROM NURSE GROUPS

Army

Navy

American Red Cross

U. S. Veterans' Bureau

Teachers' College

Henry Street Settlement Visiting Nurse Service

Brooklyn Visiting Nurse Association

Hospital Social Service

Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor

Maternity Center Association

New York Diet Kitchen

Industrial Nurses' Club

U. S. Public Health Service

State Department of Health

New York City Department of Health—

#### Child Welfare:

Baby Clinics

Pre-natal Clinics

Pre-school Clinics

School Clinics

#### Communicable Diseases:

Tuberculosis

Contagious Diseases

Venereal Diseases

Industrial Diseases

### USHERS

Parquette—Students of the Preliminary Class of Bellevue Training School.

Boxes and Galleries—Bellevue Hospital Volunteer Workers.

# PARQUETTE

## Delegations from Training Schools of Greater New York

|   |                 |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Bellevue Training School for Nurses, 440<br>East 26th St., New York City.....                         | Founded in 1873 | Kings County Hospital School of Nur-<br>sing, Clarkson St., Brooklyn.....                                     | Founded in 1897 |
| City Hospital School of Nursing, Welfare<br>Island, New York City.....                                | " " 1875        | Bloomingdale Hospital Training School,<br>White Plains, N. Y. ....  | " " 1898        |
| New York Hospital Training School, 8<br>West 16th St., New York City....                              | " " 1877        | Lincoln Hospital Training School, East<br>141st St. and Southern Blvd.....                                    | " " 1898        |
| Cumberland Hospital School of Nursing,<br>W. Portland Ave. & Auburn Place,<br>Brooklyn .....          | " " 1879        | St. John's Long Island City Hospital<br>School, Jackson Ave. and 12th St.,<br>Long Island City .....          | " " 1900        |
| Brooklyn Hospital Training School for<br>Nurses, Raymond St. & Dekalb Ave.,<br>Brooklyn .....         | " " 1880        | Flower Hospital Training School, 450<br>East 64th St., New York City....                                      | " " 1901        |
| Mount Sinai Training School for Nurses,<br>Madison Ave. & 101st St., New York<br>City .....           | " " 1881        | Beth Israel Hospital Training School for<br>Nurses, Jefferson and Cherry Sts.,<br>New York City .....         | " " 1902        |
| Long Island College Hospital School of<br>Nursing, Pacific & Amity Sts.,<br>Brooklyn .....            | " " 1882        | Wyckoff Heights Hospital Training<br>School, St. Nicholas Ave. and Stan-<br>hope St., Brooklyn.....           | " " 1902        |
| New York Post Graduate (The Margaret<br>Fahnestock School of Nursing),<br>Second Ave. & 20th St. .... | " " 1886        | French Hospital School for Nurses, 450<br>West 34th St., New York City....                                    | " " 1905        |
| Lenox Hill Hospital Training School,<br>112 East 77th St., New York City...                           | " " 1887        | Bushwick Hospital, Putnam Avenue.<br>Brooklyn .....   | " " 1905        |
| Mills Training School for Nurses, 431<br>East 26th St., New York City.....                            | " " 1887        | Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn School for<br>Nurses, Classon and St. Marks Aves.,<br>Brooklyn .....              | " " 1906        |
| St. Luke's Hospital Training School,<br>113th St. & Amsterdam Ave., New<br>York City .....            | " " 1888        | Mary Immaculate Hospital Training<br>School, Shelton Ave. and Ray St.,<br>Jamaica, Long Island .....          | " " 1908        |
| St. Mary's Hospital of the City of Brook-<br>lyn, St. Mark's & Buffalo Aves.,<br>Brooklyn .....       | " " 1889        | Swedish Hospital Training School,<br>Rogers Ave. and Sterling Place,<br>Brooklyn .....                        | " " 1908        |
| St. Mary's Free Hospital for Children,<br>405 W. 34th St., New York City...                           | " " 1889        | Norwegian Lutheran Deaconesses' Home<br>and Hospital School of Nursing,<br>Fourth Ave. and 46th St., Brooklyn | " " 1909        |
| Metropolitan Hospital School of Nursing,<br>Welfare Island, New York City....                         | " " 1892        | St. Catherine's Hospital Training School,<br>133 Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn....                                  | " " 1909        |
| Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing,<br>41 East 70th St., New York City..                         | " " 1892        | Hospital of the Holy Family Training<br>School, 151 Dean St., Brooklyn....                                    | " " 1910        |
| St. Vincent's Hospital Training School<br>for Nurses, 156 West 12th St., New<br>York City .....       | " " 1892        | Misericordia Hospital Training School,<br>531 East 86th St., New York City.                                   | " " 1910        |
| Staten Island Hospital Training School,<br>Castleton Ave., Staten Island.....                         | " " 1894        | New York Skin & Cancer Hospital Train-<br>ing School, Second Ave. and 19th<br>St., New York City .....        | " " 1910        |
| St. Mark's Hospital Training School,<br>Second Ave. & 11th St., New York<br>City .....                | " " 1894        | Peoples Hospital Training School, 203<br>Second Ave., New York City.....                                      | " " 1910        |
| Brooklyn State Hospital Training School,<br>Clarkson St. and Albany Avenue,<br>Brooklyn .....         | " " 1896        | Columbus Hospital Training School, 226<br>East 20th St., New York City....                                    | " " 1911        |
| Kings Park State Hospital Training<br>School, Kings Park, Long Island,<br>N. Y. ....                  | " " 1896        | St. Joseph's Hospital Training School,<br>Far Rockaway, N. Y.....   | " " 1911        |
| Manhattan State Hospital Training<br>School, Ward's Island, New York<br>City .....                    | " " 1896        | Carson C. Peck Memorial Hospital Train-<br>ing School, Brooklyn .....   | " " 1918        |
| Roosevelt Hospital Training School,<br>West 59th St., New York City....                               | " " 1896        | Broad Street Hospital Training School,<br>129 Broad St., New York City....                                    | " " 1920        |
| St. John's Hospital Training School, Al-<br>bany and Atlantic Aves., Brooklyn.                        | " " 1896        | Community Hospital School of Nursing,<br>17 W. 101st St., New York City...                                    | " " 1920        |
|   |                 | Fifth Avenue Hospital School of Nursing,<br>Fifth Ave. and 105th St., New York<br>City .....                  | " " 1922        |
|   |                 | Harlem Hospital Training School, Lenox<br>Ave. and 135th St., New York City.                                  | " " 1923        |



# BOARD OF MANAGERS BELLEVUE TRAINING SCHOOL

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Osborn Hall, 426 East 26th Street, New York

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